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IN THE CLAIMS:

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11/20°*

Please cancel claim 6, without prejudice, and add new claims 16-19. Please amend claims 1, 5, 8 and 14 as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A charging stand for charging and selectively enclosing and exposing an appliance having a rechargeable battery, the battery being charged by an external power source, comprising:

a base having an access opening for supporting the appliance, said base having electrical contacts for charging the battery and at least one socket for supplying power from the external power source to the contacts;

a cover configured to fit over said base to define an interior space for enclosing the appliance; and

means for securing said cover to said base in at least two positions such that in a first position said cover encloses the appliance with said base and in a second position said cover exposes the appliance;

wherein said cover supports said base in said second position while said cover remains attached to said base;.

wherein said base includes a latch which releasably secures said base and said cover together.